

ST ALBANS FOLK FESTIVAL

5th – 7th JUNE 2026

Detailed programme

Friday June 5

- 19.00-21.30 **The Hollybush**, Church End, Redbourn AL3 7DU
Folk in the Garden An evening of traditional and contemporary folk music with **Redbourn Folk Club**
- 19.45-22.00 **The Church Hall**, Marlborough Road, St Albans, AL1 3XG,
Barn Dance with live music from the Red River Band. Come on your own or with friends to join the fun. Open to all. Beginners welcome. Our experienced caller will show you what to do. Admission £4, cash or card. Contact Friday Folk, 07762 085629.
- 20.00-23.00 **The Queen's Head, Sandridge**
Traditional music session. This is an informal session of English, Irish and other acoustic music. All welcome to listen or to play.

Saturday June 6

Day of Dance

Dance teams include **St Albans Morris**, **Queen's Oak Border Morris**, **FaltUKeiras**, **New Moon Morris**, **Tower Ravens Rapper**, **Ely and Littleport Riot**, and the **World Famous Hammersmith Morris Men**. Between the opening and closing displays they will be moving between the other three locations while, as they do, **Tappalachian** will perform at Christopher Place.

- 10.15 - 11.30 Outside the Alban Arena, **Massed show**, all teams.
- 11.40 - 13.10 Dancing outside Cattle Walk (St Peters St, opp. Nationwide and Barclays), at the Museum, and in Christopher Place
- 14.10 - 14.50 Dancing outside Cattle Walk, at the Museum, and in Christopher Place
- 15.00 - 16.00 At the Abbey West Door, **Massed show**, all teams
- 16.45 -18.45 Music session at the White Hart Hotel, Holywell Hill.

Singing and music

Family activities

- 11.00-12.00 In the **Children's Library** at St Albans Central Library, songs and tunes for families with **Ian and Sue Bembridge**, and with **Alison Raymond and Susan Alexander**

Singing at the Clock Tower & elsewhere in the City Centre

- 10.00-16.00 Showcasing **Watford Folk Club** and **Redbourn Folk Club**

Sessions and singarounds - a chance to join in

- 14.30 - 17.00 **The Goat Inn: Song and music session.** This is a song session, hosted by Nigel Moorcroft, with some tunes where we encourage joining in with each other other's songs and music.
- 16.45-18.45 **The White Hart** Hotel, 23-25 Holywell Hill, St Albans AL1 1EZ
Traditional music session: An informal session of English, Irish and other folk and acoustic music. All welcome to listen or to play

Festival concert

19.30 **St Saviour's Church**, 25 Sandpit Lane, St Albans AL1 4DF

Máire Ní Chathasaigh & Chris Newman



Chris and Maire are each highly regarded in their own right and come from very different backgrounds. Maire is an award-winning harper who grew up in Bandon, County Cork, in a family steeped in Irish traditional music. Chris plays the steel stringed guitar in a range of musical genres. He has toured and recorded with many luminaries of the folk and jazz worlds.

PLUS Watford Folk Club songwriting competition winner **Callum Granger** *and* New Roots 2026 finalist, **Gabriel Bath**, singer and concertina player, with a focus on music from the North of England.

Tickets for the festival concert, price £20, students and under 18 £15, can be bought by booking online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/stalbansfolkmusic, by phone on 0333 666 3366, or on the door

Sunday June 7

An afternoon of music and family activities

13.00-16.00 **In and around St Saviour's Church**, 25 Sandpit Lane, St Albans AL1 4DF
Food stalls, licensed bar, face painting, and crafts.

In addition, representatives from local environmental charity **Earthworks** will be there with an information stall, where you can learn about its work and try your hand at its activities

- 14.00 – 14.30 **Sedbuskers**, a multi-instrumental duo comprising singer-songwriters Ian and Sue Bembridge
- 14.30 - 15.00 **Family Barn Dance** with live music and **Bob Barrett** calling
- 15.00 - 15.30 **Young Miscellany** Maypole dancing and workshop
- 15.30 - 16.00 **The Late Arrivals** – singers Mandy Hardingham and Nigel Moorcroft